

TOP SECRET

Approved For Release 2004/07/07 : CIA-RDP79B01709A001400050005-8

30 November 1973

NOTE FOR THE RECORD:

SUBJECT : 30 November Interagency Review of  
Middle East Photo Reconnaissance Planning

1. A meeting of interagency representatives was called by the National Intelligence Officer (NIO) for the Middle East on 30 November to effect final review and coordination for a GIANT REACH mission authorized to be flown during the coming week (2-8 December). [ ] (NIO) was unable to attend because of last minute developments and he asked that the meeting be chaired by Chairman, COMIREX--which was done.

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2. The following points were conveyed to the representatives:

a. On 29 November Dr. Kissinger approved the 21 November 73 memorandum containing a recommended plan for Middle East Photo Reconnaissance which had been prepared under the DCI's auspices. While the plan was approved as a package, it was understood that the specific schedule (paragraph 12.a.) was approved in principle subject to a check and approval before each individual flight.

b. A specific GIANT REACH mission was approved for the coming week (2-8 December).

c. Dr. Kissinger also indicated that the mechanism for coordinating and reviewing the need for future SR-71 flights in this package was to be handled through the NIO for the Middle East.

3. A late development which affected the content and focus of this meeting was the fact that information had just been received via [ ] [ ] had received information that the war will be

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NRO, USAF and DIA review(s) completed.

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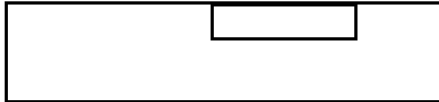
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resumed within a few days a [redacted] [redacted] [redacted]  
[redacted] This new information, in turn, raised the urgency of having a  
GIANT REACH mission as soon as feasible, rather than later in the week  
ahead. [redacted] information is being checked out by all means available.

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4. Conclusions of the meeting were as follows:

a. The earliest date on which a GIANT REACH mission can be flown is Sunday, 2 December. This date was set as the objective, subject only to the presence of adequate weather conditions in the target areas. There was agreement that 50/50 weather would be used as the general criterion and that close pre-mission coordination between SAC and Washington DoD elements would be affected to make a decision if weather conditions were below this threshold.

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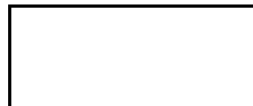


c. Representatives continued to meet to select the specific objectives for the tech objective camera (TEOC) and to specify the the coordinates to be used in adjusting the outbound flight path as above.

5. I communicated the foregoing to [redacted] who concurred and will advise the Director.

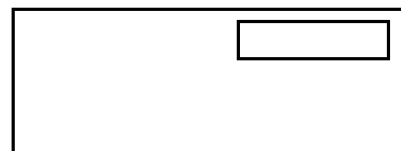
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MEMORANDUM FOR: NIO/ME

Sam:

This is the memo I prepared on the  
Friday meeting.

R.S.I.

~~4 December 1973~~  
(DATE)

FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101  
1 AUG 54 WHICH MAY BE USED.

(47)